THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS
BENGALURU • SUNDAY • JULY 28, 2024 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 26 • LATE CITY EDITION

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Code of conduct needed in South China Sea: Govt

External affairs minister Jaishankar said sea lines of communication passing through South China Sea are critical for peace, stability in the Indo-Pacific Region. The Code of Conduct in the South China Sea should be consistent with global law and not prejudice legitimate rights and interest of nations not party to discussions, he said at the 14th East Asia Summit

1ST WOMAN IN 20 YRS

FRENCH PROMISE FOR MANU

India shooter Manu Bhaker | AP

WHEN the joy is back for an athlete, it's not at all joyous for the opponents. Firing freely, soaking the pressure and not thinking about winning or losing has made an indelible mark on her psyche.

Manu Bhaker, 22, had trying times before and after the Tokyo Olympics when she was still a teen. The shooter had broken away from her childhood coach (in Japan, she was two points off qualifying for final). She did not know where her career was heading and was seeking stability. "I told him (coach Jaspal Rana) that I will shoot with you only and I don't know if I would continue after 2024," she had told this daily earlier. She had learnt her lessons and realised that people forget what medal you have won when you lose. On a wet Saturday at Chateauroux, some 250 km away from Paris, Bhaker lifted the spirits of the Indian team. She started off slowly, but once she hit the target, it was the Bhaker show. She finished third with a score of 580 behind Veronika Major (582) and Jin Ye Oh (582). Sunday could be the day when India win their first medal. P13

Didi walks out of NITI Aayog meet

Prime Minister calls for zero poverty, wants it prioritised at the village level for achieving Viksit Bharat

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

WEST Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday created a flutter by claiming she was not allowed to complete her speech at the NITI Aayog governing council meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, an allegation that was emphatically denied by the government.

Mamata also claimed that her microphone was turned off five minutes into her speech. But the Press Information Bureau's fact-checking vertical rubbished it. "The clock only showed that her speaking time was over. Even the bell was not rung to mark it," the PIB said. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, too, trashed the allegation and said every chief minister was "allotted their due time to speak".

B V R Subrahmanyam, the Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog, informed that all CMs were allotted seven minutes to speak. They got their turn in alphabetic order. "Since Mamata was representing West Bengal, her turn would have come in the afternoon, but she made a request to speak before lunch and it was agreed."

Mamata was the only CM from an Opposition-ruled state to participate. Her Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar, who is part of the NDA at the Centre, also did not make it. In all, 10 CMs did not show up.

Putting it in context, TMC sources said Mamata attended the meet despite attempts by the Opposition INDIA bloc to wean her away, so as to send a message that she would not be guided by Congress strategies.

In his address, Modi emphasised the need to tackle poverty on an individual level rather than just at a programme level. "We must target zero poverty as a priority for a Viksit Bharat starting at the village level," he said, adding it would have a transformational effect.

In her speech, Mamata said, "Many states have been deprived in the Budget, including my state, which has been deprived of MNREGA funds for the last three years." She said the Centre cannot discriminate between states based on its political equation with the parties governing them.

> The vision of Viksit Bharat can be realised through Viksit states. The aspiration of Viksit Bharat should reach the grassroot level i.e. to each district, block, and village
>
> Narendra Modi

> Naidu spoke for 20 mins. Assam, Arunachal, Chhattisgarh, and Goa CMs spoke for 15-20 mins. But as soon as I spoke for 5 mins, they kept hitting the bell
>
> Mamata Banerjee

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union ministers and CMs during a group photo session in New Delhi on Saturday | PTI

Make policies to attract FDI, Modi urges states

Modi urged all states to take advantage of technological and geopolitical changes to make India developed by 2047. He advised them to make policies conducive for attracting FDI. He also directed the NITI Aayog to prepare an investment-friendly charter

Attack by Pak special forces kills one jawan

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi warned Pakistan on 25th anniversary of Kargil War, Pakistan's Border Action Team and militants attacked the Army's forward post along the Line of Control (LoC) in Machil sector of J&K on Saturday. While the Army foiled the attack, a jawan was killed and four other soldiers, including a Captain, were injured in the gunfight. One Pakistani intruder was gunned down.

Defence spokesman in Srinagar said the Pakistan special forces team took advantage of bad weather and poor visibility along the LoC in north Kashmir's Kupwara district. Two or three armed men crossed the LoC and fired on the forward Army post from close proximity, he said.

A BAT team generally comprises Pakistani commandos and highly trained militants. Sources said two other BAT members fled to the other side of the LoC after the gunfight. The injured soldiers were taken to the Army's base hospital at Badamibagh Cantonment in Srinagar for specialised treatment. The deceased jawan was identified as rifleman Mohit Rathour. He succumbed to his injuries in the hospital. The defence spokesman said the Army is trying to ascertain whether the slain Pakistani national was a regular soldier or a terrorist or a guide.

ST Corpn scam: 10 kg gold biscuits seized

THE ROW

The scam involves Rs 187.33 crore kept in different accounts which was diverted to a bank in Bengaluru.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the multi-crore scam in Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation has recovered 10 kg of gold biscuits from the house of Satyanarayan Verma, a key accused.

During interrogation, Verma disclosed that he had purchased 15 kg of gold biscuits using the scam money. However, SIT officials could recover only 10 kg of gold biscuits from Verma's and his relatives' houses in Hyderabad on Thursday. Verma had also bought four flats in Nizamabad.

Earlier, the officials recovered a Lamborghini car worth Rs 3.3 crore from Verma. They also recovered Rs 8 crore from Verma's relatives' houses. Verma, 36, was arrested in Hyderabad on June 13 for allegedly opening 18 fake bank accounts to transfer the scam money. So far, 12 accused have been arrested in connection with the scam.

PG murder case: Accused nabbed in MP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

POLICE have arrested Abhishek J, 23, from his hometown near Raisen in Madhya Pradesh for allegedly murdering Kriti Kumari, 24, in her PG facility in the city on Tuesday.

He was arrested around 12.40 pm on Friday and brought to Bengaluru on Saturday. Preliminary investigations revealed that Abhishek was in a relationship with Kriti's roommate, who recently separated from him. Abhishek believed Kumari was behind his girlfriend's separation from him. P5

1st tunnel road from Hebbal to Silk Board: DKS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister DK Shivakumar on Saturday said that tenders will be called for the first tunnel road project in Bengaluru after getting the state cabinet's approval.

After a meeting with MPs, MLAs and MLCs from Bengaluru on the development of the IT city under the concept of Brand Bengaluru, he said, "The meeting discussed the proposed 18.5-km tunnel road from Esteem Mall at Hebbal to Silk Board junction at BTM Layout. P2

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The College of Engineering received the Best Professional College Award (Urban Category) by SPPU and achieved All India Rank – 1 in BAJA SAE INDIA 2024.
Amey Gavaskar of the College of Pharmacy achieved GPAT 2023 AIR 1, showcasing exceptional talent and dedication.
Institute of Information Technology was honored with the prestigious Best College Award for Professional Courses in Urban Areas by SPPU, Pune for the Academic Year 2023-24. Additionally, it received the Best Private Engineering College award by ISTE and the Best Principal Award by SPPU.
College of Hotel Management & Catering Technology set a World Record by preparing 100 Curries in 250 Minutes with 250 Students & Faculty Members, documented in the World Book of Records, London And Ranked 2nd among Private Hotel Management Colleges West Zone by Week Magazine.
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